

Decision number: 17/CERT/054/2024

IN THE MATTER of the Sale and Supply of
Alcohol Act 2012(the Act)

AND

IN THE MATTER of an application by
Tayla Alexis TAPARA
pursuant to s.219 of Act for a
manager's certificate.

BEFORE THE SOUTH WAIKATO DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

This is an application by **Tayla Alexis TAPARA (nee REES)** for a manager's certificate to manage licensed premises known as **'TOKOROA COSMOPOLITAN CLUB'**.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The applicant holds the prescribed Licence Controller Qualification/s and is employed in licensed premises.

The Licensing Inspector has provided a report outlining the applicant's experience in controlling licensed premises and has tested their understanding of their responsibilities as a manager.

Neither the final report from the New Zealand Police, nor the Licensing Inspector express any concern about the suitability of the applicant, nor do they oppose the granting of the application.

However, they do note an extensive list of 14 criminal and traffic convictions from offending that occurred between 2014 and 2022. Some of the convictions were not disclosed on the application form. She last appeared in Court in April 2023 for an October 2022 offence.

To her credit it appears she has turned her life around since then and there has been no further offending detected since October 2022.

The application is supported by her employer and other referees that vouch for her integrity and desire to move on in her life.

The question for the DLC is can we be satisfied that Ms. Rees has put her past lifestyle behind her and will continue to be a responsible member of society. Or is she going to stumble, as she has done several times, in her previous life.

There are three options available to the Committee today.

1. Grant the application on the papers and hope that she will not breach the trust we would need to place in her.
2. Decline to grant the application and set the matter down for a hearing where we can hear, in person, about the progress she has made and her intentions in the hospitality industry.
3. We could also delay the determination of this application for a period of time for Ms. Rees to continue to show us, and her employer, that she has put her previous life behind her and is worthy of our support.

UPDATE 20 June 2025

We have received an addendum from the Inspector who reports that the applicant has remained offence free and still has the support of her employer.

The fresh Police report is unopposed.

DECISION

The application and supporting information **now** satisfy the committee that the criteria we must have regard to as set out in s.222 of the Act have been met.

The District Licensing Committee Chairman, acting pursuant to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 **grants** an application by **Tayla Alexis TAPARA** for a Manager's Certificate.

The Certificate will be valid for 12 months from the date of issue.

We wish the applicant well for her career in hospitality.

DATED at Tokoroa this 20th day of June 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Murray Clearwater', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Murray Clearwater
Chairperson/Commissioner
South Waikato District Licensing Committee
